FILED

JUN 18 2012

N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR :

Administrative Action

REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

ROBYN KORN, R.N.

License No. 26NR06725300

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE

OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Robyn Korn ("Respondent") is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), licensees eligible for renewal in May 2010 were required to complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of continuing education during the two-year period between June 1, 2008 and May 31, 2010 in order to renew their licenses.
- Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(f), licensees are required to maintain documentation of completion of continuing

education for a period of four years after completion, and shall submit such documentation to the Board upon request.

- 4. On or about July 1, 2010 Respondent completed the biennial renewal of her nursing license for the period of June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2012, and Respondent's license was then renewed by the Board through May 31, 2012.
- 5. Respondent was asked on the biennial renewal application whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2010," referring to the biennial renewal period of June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2010. Respondent answered "no" to the question.
- 6. On or about October 27, 2010, the Board received a letter from Respondent advising that because she had received her renewed license from the Board, she did not think "anything else was required as 'mandatory.'" Respondent explained that she was dealing with some medical and personal issues at the time of license renewal.
- 7. On or about December 8, 2011, the Board sent a letter to Respondent requesting that she provide within thirty (30) days, either proof of successful completion of 30 hours of continuing education credits or submission of her active license, and offering her the option of placing her nursing license in "inactive" status.

- 8. On or about January 27, 2012, the Board received a letter from Brian Cole, M.D., advising that Respondent was under his care and that "[d]ue to her medical condition, she is unable to sit or stand for prolonged periods of time. Unfortunately, this will prevent her from being able to complete her coursework at her attended (sic) school at this time."
- 9. To date, Respondent has not complied with the Board's continuing education requirement.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board finds that Respondent has failed to demonstrate completion of the required 30 hours of continuing education for the two-year period of June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2010. The Board therefore finds Respondent in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), which subjects Respondent to sanctions, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and 45:1-21(h).
- 2. Respondent's inability to complete required continuing education demonstrates that she is incapable, for medical reasons, of discharging the functions of a licensee in a manner consistent with the public's health, safety and welfare, within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(i).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline ("POD") was entered by this Board on April 10, 2012, which provisionally suspended

Respondent's license to practice nursing. Copies of the POD were sent to Respondent's address of record in Edgewater, New Jersey via certified and regular mail. The Provisional Order of Discipline clearly stated that it was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting Respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent failed to submit a response to the POD. Because the POD was forwarded to Respondent's address of record, and the regular mailing was not returned, although the certified mail receipt was signed and returned, the Board deems service to have been effected, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:45-3.2. Accordingly, it is determined that further proceedings are not necessary and that the Provisional Order should be made final.

THEREFORE, it is on this 18 day of June, 2012 ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's license to practice nursing be and hereby is suspended pending submission of proof of completion of thirty

- (30) hours of continuing education as required by <u>N.J.A.C.</u>
 13:37-5.3(a). No application for reinstatement will be entertained unless and until Respondent demonstrates, to the Board's satisfaction, that she is fit and competent to practice nursing.
- 2. Respondent shall refrain from practicing as a nurse and shall not represent herself as a Registered Professional Nurse until such time as her license is reinstated. Any practice in this State prior to reinstatement shall constitute grounds for a charge of unlicensed practice.

NEW JERSEY STATE ROARD OF NURSING

Bv:

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APRN

Board President